

GYPSY MOTH SUPPRESSION PROGRAM

Authorization: ss. 26.30(2) and (5), 28.01, and 28.07, Wis. Stats.; s. NR 47.9, Wis. Admin. Code

Budget: Dependent on funding from U.S. Forest Service

Objective: At the request of landowners, these grants are provided to reduce outbreaks of non-native gypsy moth species populations below the level at which they can cause heavy defoliation. The suppression program consists of an aerial insecticide treatment program administered in partnership with the WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and administration of federal cost-sharing for participants in the treatment program. Counties designate a local coordinator to administer requests for treatment from and for all residents of the county.

Eligibility: Eligible treatment blocks need to meet the following criteria:

- ◆ At least 25% of canopy covered by trees
- ◆ At least 50% of trees are preferred hosts (such as oak, aspen, white-barked birch, linden, crabapple)
- ◆ At least 20 acres in size
- ◆ At least 500 gypsy moth egg masses per acre on residential land and 1000 egg masses on rural land

Level of Assistance: Expenses directly relevant to the suppression program, aerial spray, and administrative costs, will be cost-shared at the following rates based on the amount of funding received from the US Forest Service:

- ◆ Privately owned lands under 500 acres per owner may be cost-shared up to 50%
- ◆ Privately owned lands of over 500 acres per owner may be cost-shared up to 33%
- ◆ Publicly owned lands may be cost shared up to 25%

Priorities: Suppress outbreaks of gypsy moth populations to protect the trees that landowners and communities value.

Eligible Types of Projects: Treatment blocks with gypsy moth outbreaks that meet the eligibility requirements receive aerial insecticide treatment.

Applications: Available from the contact or see web site.

History: The program started in 2001: two communities participated and 1500 acres were sprayed. This grant program has evolved into numerous counties participating and thousands of acres sprayed.

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